

Petition RM-10806 presents some excellent reasons for the continued use of Morse Code as a mode of operations within the Amateur Radio Service. However, the petition seems to present no clear, rational reason for requiring continued testing in Morse Code. Rather, the reasoning seems to be based more on sentiment and incorrect information. I do not believe that elimination of Element 1 testing will result in the demise or even decline in use of Morse Code within the Amateur Radio Service. It seems quite clear that Morse Code will continue to be learned and used by operator regardless of whether or not FCC regulations require a demonstrated proficiency for issuance of an Amateur Radio Operator's license. Dismiss petition RM-10806 and eliminate Element 1 testing altogether; the result will be a larger number of licensed Amateurs and greater use of the various frequency bands allocated to the Amateur Radio Service. The Volunteer Examiners will also be relieved of an unnecessary burden.

R. Mark Jones, N5RMJ